DOCKET NO: 293331US3PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

SHUNSUKE AMANO, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 10/588,004 :

FILED: AUGUST 1, 2006 :

FOR: COMBUSTION APPARATUS AND :

COMBUSTION METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.